

Biodiesel fuel holds great promise to help move the United States toward energy independence. It is created by converting soybean oil, animal fats, and yellow grease and other feed stocks into transportation fuel.

Compared to petrol diesel, biodiesel burns much more cleanly. Production of biodiesel creates jobs in rural areas and makes farming more profitable. The carbon footprint of biodiesel also is superior to petrol diesel. Cars and trucks fueled by biodiesel produce fewer unburned hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, and particulate matter.

The biodiesel industry is young but growing, and its growth is driven by the rising cost of oil and a growing awareness of the need to move toward energy independence. In 2005, the United States produced 75 million gallons of biodiesel. That number more than tripled in 2006, when the United States produced 250 million gallons of biodiesel.

By the end of this year, we expect capacity to increase to more than 1 billion gallons. More than 140 plants already produce biodiesel, and more are moving to production soon. Biodiesel fuel plants can be found all across the country, from the Corn Belt and Great Plains to the Pacific Northwest and the Mid-Atlantic.

The bipartisan bill I am introducing today with Senators GRASSLEY, CARPER, LUGAR, and OBAMA is a modest attempt to take advantage of this potential capacity and to reduce the amount of petroleum used in the 60-billion-gallon diesel fuel pool. Under this bill, over the next 5 years, the United States would blend 450 million gallons of biodiesel into diesel fuel in 2008, 625 million gallons in 2009, 800 million gallons in 2010, 1 billion gallons in 2011, and 1.25 billion gallons in 2012.

This mandate would create an incentive for the production and consumption of biodiesel and give this infant industry some market guarantees to help it achieve stability and maturity.

Many States already are moving in the direction of biodiesel mandates. My home State of Illinois has offered a biodiesel tax incentive since 2003 that has increased demand for the product, and Minnesota has had a 2-percent biodiesel mandate since 2005.

This is an environmentally friendly, home-grown fuel, and we should embrace its use. I thank Senators GRASSLEY, CARPER, LUGAR, and OBAMA for their early support and urge others in the Senate to cosponsor our legislation.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 233—MAKING MINORITY PARTY APPOINTMENTS FOR THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS FOR THE 110TH CONGRESS

Mr. MCCONNELL submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 233

Resolved, That the following be the minority membership on the Select Committee on Ethics for the remainder of the 110th Congress, or until their successors are appointed; Mr. Cornyn, Mr. Roberts, and Mr. Isakson.

SENATE RESOLUTION 234—DESIGNATING JUNE 15, 2007, AS “NATIONAL HUNTINGTON’S DISEASE AWARENESS DAY”

Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. DODD) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 234

Whereas Huntington’s Disease is a progressive degenerative neurological disease that causes total physical and mental deterioration over a 12 to 15 year period;

Whereas each child of a parent with Huntington’s Disease has a 50 percent chance of inheriting the Huntington’s Disease gene;

Whereas Huntington’s Disease typically begins in mid-life, between the ages of 30 and 45, though onset may occur as early as the age of 2;

Whereas children who develop the juvenile form of the disease rarely live to adulthood;

Whereas the average lifespan after onset of Huntington’s Disease is 10 to 20 years, and the younger the age of onset, the more rapid the progression of the disease;

Whereas Huntington’s Disease affects 30,000 patients and 200,000 genetically “at risk” individuals in the United States;

Whereas since the discovery of the gene that causes Huntington’s Disease in 1993, the pace of Huntington’s Disease research has accelerated;

Whereas, although no effective treatment or cure currently exists, scientists and researchers are hopeful that breakthroughs will be forthcoming;

Whereas researchers across the Nation are conducting important research projects involving Huntington’s Disease; and

Whereas the Senate is an institution that can raise awareness in the general public and the medical community of Huntington’s Disease: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 15, 2007, as “National Huntington’s Disease Awareness Day”;

(2) recognizes that all people of the United States should become more informed and aware of Huntington’s Disease; and

(3) respectfully requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Huntington’s Disease Society of America.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1528. Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. DOMENICI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, to reduce our Nation’s dependency on foreign oil by investigating clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting newemerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1529. Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. DOMENICI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1530. Mr. PRYOR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1531. Mr. PRYOR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1532. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1533. Mr. MENENDEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1534. Mr. NELSON, of Nebraska submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1535. Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. DODD, Mr. KERRY, Mr. REED, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1536. Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. DODD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1537. Mr. REID (for Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. SALAZAR, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. DURBIN)) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, supra.

SA 1538. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. DOMENICI (for himself, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. GRAHAM, and Ms. MURKOWSKI)) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1537 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. SALAZAR, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. DURBIN)) to the amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, supra.

SA 1539. Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Ms. SNOWE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1540. Mr. CARPER (for himself and Mr. BIDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1541. Mr. SMITH (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1542. Mr. BROWNBACK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1543. Mr. BAYH (for himself, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. COLEMAN, and Mr. SALAZAR) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1544. Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. WEBB) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1545. Mr. ENZI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 6, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1546. Mr. DEMINT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment